

## CONSERVATION - CLASS OUTLINES

One of the most common questions educators have asked in regards to teaching about conservation and natural resources has been, “What should I include in a course about Conservation/Natural Resources?” A grant from the United States Forest Service provided funding to develop course outlines teachers could use to teach a specific unit or a more comprehensive course covering five conservation/natural resource topics.

The outlines are provided as a resource for educators who are developing formal and/or non-formal programs about conservation and natural resources. In addition, commonly used terms, resources, and teaching standards for agriculture and science programs are identified. Benchmarks and performance indicators are also included for agriculture programs because they are “standardized” throughout Iowa. Four of the outline topics (aquatics, forestry, soils, and wildlife) are components of the Iowa Envirothon Competition. The fifth topic, invasive species, is an environmental issue of special concern in Iowa.

Please feel free to adapt the outlines to your specific geographical area and teaching style. An abundance of classroom activities are available from Project WILD, Project WILD *Aquatic*, Project Learning Tree, and other sources for use in teaching the concepts listed in the outlines. If you have questions or comments, please contact Don Sievers, Project Coordinator, at [dsiever@netins.net](mailto:dsiever@netins.net) or 641-747-8383 ext.14.

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